



Dandelion Vineyards

2020

'HONEYPOT OF THE BAROSSA'

Roussanne | Barossa Valley - Australia



NATURAL

Stats

Grapes: 100% Roussanne
Vineyard: O'Brien's Vineyard
Vine Age: 16-years-old
Soil Type: Sandy loam over ironstone riddled clay
Viticulture: Sustainable
Fermentation: Native - stainless steel
Skin Contact: None
Aging: 3 months in stainless steel
Alcohol: 12.2%
Total SO2: 80 ppm
Total Production: 900 cases
UPC: 9342160000218

Reviews

Halliday Wine Companion | 93 points
James Suckling | 91 points
Vinous | 91 points

About

This Honey-pot Roussanne was made entirely from Helen and Mark O'Brien's remarkable vineyard. Roussanne has a love-hate relationship with the Barossa as it can achieve some high-highs but also plenty of low-lows. Getting the acidity right is key and Elena is hyper-focused on that vs sugar levels. She also looks to bottle it early maintaining a lot of freshness and lacking the weight that the Rhône white grapes are known for. The result is a mineral-driven style of Roussanne that is a bridge to the Rhône for many.

Whole bunches of hand tended and hand harvested Roussanne was picked in the cool of early morning then gently crushed with only the free run juice being fermented without any additions in a stainless-steel tank. The wine sat on the fine lees for three months without battonage and was racked and bottled three months later. It was bottled without filtration and with a small addition of sulfur.

Tasting Note

Luminous pale gold. Aromas of honeysuckle, guava, fresh flowers, green herbs and almond linger in the glass. The palate is textural but more restrained than often seen from this grape. There is just enough grip and just enough viscosity to not become too cloying nor too bracing. It is the conservative side of the Roussanne spectrum without any honey and more lemon and nashi pear notes continuing to evolve.